

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Restriction Requirement mailed September 10, 2004. Claims 1 through 45 are pending in the application. The Examiner has required election between Group I, Claims 1-11 and 30-38, Group II, Claims 12-20, Group III, Claims 21-29, and Group IV, Claims 39-45. Applicant elects Group I without traverse.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction requirement. The combination/sub-combination and process/apparatus claims, as identified by the Examiner, are sufficiently closely related that examination of all of the claims would pose no serious burden on the Examiner. Applicant should not be forced to divide the invention across multiple applications and respectfully requests that the election requirement be withdrawn and all claims herein be examined together in their entireties.

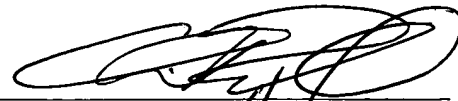
CONCLUSION

In light of the forgoing, reconsideration and allowance of the claims is earnestly solicited. Accordingly, notification to that effect is earnestly requested. In the event that issues arise in the application which may readily be resolved via telephone, the Examiner is kindly invited to telephone the prosecuting attorney, identified below, at (402) 496-0300 to facilitate prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
Porter-Cable Corporation,

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By:



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